



John J. Neu
Chief of Police

BULLETIN

TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CRIME ANALYSIS

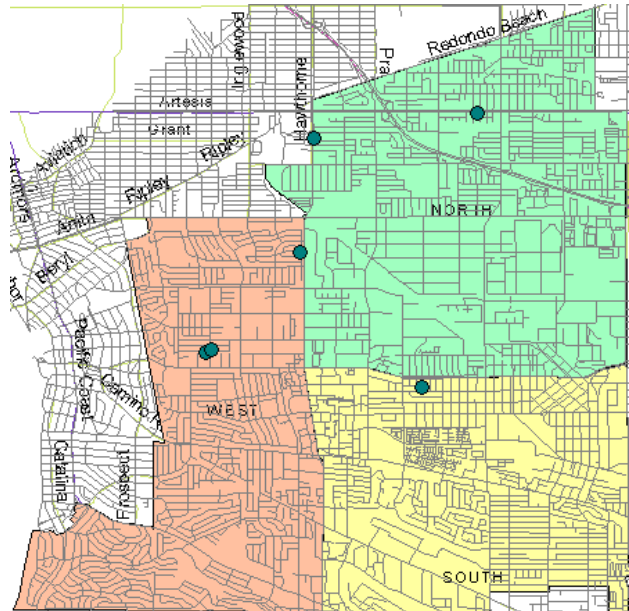
3300 Civic Center Drive • Torrance, CA 90503 • TEL: 310.618.5528 • FAX: 310.618.6361 • SKramer@TorranceCA.Gov



FUMIGATION BURGLARIES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2011

DETAILS: Jurisdictions just north of Torrance are reporting large numbers of residential burglaries since July 01, 2011 wherein suspects are targeting single family residences and apartment buildings tented for fumigation; Gardena has had at least nine while Inglewood has had at least 12. Torrance has had four in that time and six in all of 2011 (mapped at right – note all are in the northern half of the city); by comparison, in Torrance between 2007 and 2010, the average was two per year. Historically in Torrance, the top months for these have been September and November. To date, no suspect or suspect vehicle descriptions have been obtained.



So many fumigation companies have been used by the victims it doesn't seem likely they are involved in the burglaries. The point of compromise could potentially be the gas co (electricity remains on during fumigation) or according to Terminix employees contacted in February, there are burglars who follow around the fumigation trucks to locate potential targets and are wise to the fact that once the fans are placed in the homes to force out air (federal law) not only are the homes accessible due to open doors and windows, but it is safe to make entry due to the chemicals being removed.

LOCATION	DATE/ DOW/ TIME	M.O./ LOSS
17400 Blk Falda	09.06-08.11/ Tu-Th/ 1230-0645	Removes screen, enters unlocked window, moves/ attempts to take flat screen/ no loss
4500 Blk Darien	09.02-03.11/ Fr-Sa/ 1500-0730	Moves weights securing tent, removes screen, smashes window, ransacks/ flat screen TV, handbags
5000 Blk Maricopa	08.16-18.11/ Tu-Th/ 1030-0730	Moves weights securing tent, removes screen, opens window, ransacks/ unknown loss at time of report
4300 Blk 178th St	07.08-11.11/ Th-Mo/ 1230-0800	Cuts tent in two places, removes screen, enters open window, ransacks/ jewelry, cash, laptop
4900 Blk Maricopa	06.07-09.11/ Tu-Th/ 1000-1100	Cuts tent, cuts/removes screen, opens window/ jewelry
1300 Blk Kornblum	02.17-18.11/ Th-Fr/ 1118-1006	Cuts tent, smashes window, ransacks/ safe containing birth certificates, passports, deeds, gift cards

**PLEASE CONTACT THE TORRANCE POLICE
DEPARTMENT AT 310.328.3456 WITH ANY
RELATED INFORMATION**